

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH**  
**ABSTRACT**

National Blindness Control Programme (NBCP) – Measures for strengthening the NBCP Implementation –Preparation of Master Plan for Strengthening Ophthalmology Centres in Government Hospitals - Constitution of Committee – Orders Issued

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**HEALTH MEDICAL AND FAMILY WELFARE (B1) DEPARTMENT**

**G.O Rt.No. 1713**

**Dated:20-12-2010.**

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**ORDER:**

The implementation of National Blindness Control Programme (NBCP), with specific reference to the performance government health facilities, has not matched the defined targets. Some of the factors impacting NBCP performance include: the programme strategy, institutional architecture for implementation, district and sub-district leadership, human resources, especially the placement of Ophthalmologists in different hospitals, infrastructure deficiencies, lack of training, etc.

2. In this background, the government has decided to strengthen the organisational effectiveness and functional efficiency of NBCP implementation at all operational levels, duly integrating the resources of Directorate of Health, A.P. Vaidya Vidhana Parishad (APVVP), and the Directorate of Medical Education (DME). In this direction, the Government hereby establish a committee under the chairmanship of the Commissioner of Health and Family Welfare (CH&FW), with the Director of Medical Education, Director of Public Health and Family Welfare, APVVP Commissioner, the Superintendent of SD Eye Hospital and the Superintendent of Regional Eye Institute, Visakhapatnam, as members. The Joint Director of NBCP will be the Member-Convenor of the Committee.

3. The Terms of Reference for the Committee to strengthen the NBCP implementation will include:

- a) review the current performance of National Blindness Control Programme, with specific focus on prevention, early detection and treatment of preventable blindness, childhood blindness, cataract and glaucoma management, during the past two years and analyse the relative performance of the government, voluntary and private sectors, analyse the strengths, weakness and opportunities for harmonising the efforts of these entities;
- b) review the structure of NBCP implementation machinery, the nature and intensity of ophthalmology services being provided by the health facilities under DME and APVVP and identify an appropriate organisational structure that is integrated and harmonised for providing effective services for blindness prevention and treatment;
- c) review the human resources and infrastructure available in hospitals providing – and have the potential to provide – ophthalmic services to the citizens, including the corneal grafting and retinal surgery, etc., and recommend measures for strengthening the ophthalmic centres, including the infrastructure, strengthening / repositioning /relocation of human resources, capacity development, incentives, if any, etc.;
- d) recommend measures for strengthening the structural and functional effectiveness of NBCP, including an appropriate integrated organisational structure, including the feasibility of locating NBCP management under APVVP / DME;

- e) recommend measures for strengthening the Ophthalmology units in all referral hospitals under both APVVP and DPH, with specific focus on those already performing cataract surgeries, including the CHCs; and
- f) any other related activity that would have a direct impact on strengthening NBCP implementation.

4. The Committee is requested to complete the entire exercise within four weeks and submit comprehensive report duly indicating the budgetary resources required for implementation of the proposal. The report of the committee shall be received by the government by 20 January 2011. DrAmar Singh Naik, Specialist Civil Surgeon (Ophthal), District Hospital, Khammam, is hereby deputed to work under the direct control and supervision of Joint Director (NBCP) from 20 December 2010 to 20 January 2011, to assist the committee with timely completion of the assigned task.

5. The Commissioner of Health and Family Welfare, Commissioner of A.P. Vaidya Vidhana Parishad, Director of Medical Education and the Director of Public Health and Family Welfare shall take action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

**Dr. P.V. RAMESH  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To

The Commissioner of Health and Family Welfare, A.P. Hyderabad.  
The Director of Medical Education, A.P. Hyderabad.  
The Commissioner, A.P. Vaidya Vidhana Parishad, Hyderabad.  
The Director of Public Health and Family Welfare, A.P. Hyderabad.

**Copy to:-**

All DMHOs and DCHS and District Collectors  
Superintendents of Teaching Hospitals  
The Director of SPIU  
PS to Principal Secretary, Medical and Health Department  
OSD to the Minister of Medical and Health Department  
PS to the Special Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister  
All Sections of the Department.  
SF/SCs

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

**SECTION OFFICER.**